

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 6, 8-9 and 16-26 are cancelled without prejudice. New Claims 35-39 are added. Claims 1-5, 10-13 and 27-34 are amended as follows.

### **Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A method for detecting a composition comprising an ~~the~~ activity ~~of a composition~~ for inhibiting inflammation, the method comprising;

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a component with an unknown effect on inflammation;

b) adding a stimulatory agent for inducing production of a determinant ~~determinate~~ of inflammation to the first cell culture and to a second cell culture, wherein the adding of the stimulatory agent to the first cell culture precedes or occurs simultaneously with the adding of the composition to the first cell culture;

c) measuring an amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of produced determinant of inflammation ~~selected from NF- $\kappa$ B, IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, TNF- $\alpha$ , adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1, MCP-1, or PAI-1~~, the first and second cell cultures respectively comprising being vascular and/or aortic endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture to determine whether the ~~component~~ composition comprises the activity ~~effects production of the determinate of inflammation and has activity~~ for inhibiting the inflammation.

2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determinant of inflammation is selected from NF- $\kappa$ B, a cytokine, fibrinogen, an adhesion molecule, CRP or PAI-1 ~~b) adding a stimulatory agent to the first cell culture precedes a) the adding of a composition with an unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the cytokine is IL-1, IL-6, IL-11, m-CSF, TNF- $\alpha$ , or MCP-1 a) ~~adding a composition comprising a component with an unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture and b) adding a stimulatory agent to the first cell culture occur simultaneously.~~

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the component is a chemical element, a molecule, a compound, a mixture, an emulsion, a chemotherapeutic agent, a pharmacological agent, a hormone, an antibody, a growth factor, a cellular factor, a nucleic acid, a protein, a peptide, a peptidomimetic, a nucleotide, a carbohydrate, and or combinations, fragments, analogs or derivatives of such components entities.

5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the adhesion molecule ~~stimulatory agent~~ is a selectin or V-CAM-1 glyated protein.

6. (Cancelled)

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A method for detecting a composition ~~compositions~~ that affects ~~affect~~ induction of inflammation by a glyated protein, the method comprising;

a) adding the composition to a first cell culture, wherein the a composition comprises ~~comprising~~ a component with an unknown effect on induction of inflammation by the glyated protein;

b) adding the a glyated protein for inducing production of a determinant of inflammation to the first cell culture and to a second cell culture;

c) measuring an ~~the~~ amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of produced determinant of inflammation ~~the glyated protein selected from~~ NF- $\kappa$ B, IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, TNF- $\alpha$ , ~~adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1, MCP-1 or PAI-1,~~ the first and second cell cultures respectively comprising ~~vaseular and/or aortic~~ endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant of inflammation from the first cell culture with the amount of the determinant of inflammation from the second cell culture to determine whether the component has a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, ~~a stabilizing effect~~, or no effect on induction of inflammation by the glycated protein.

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein b) adding the a glycated protein to the a first cell culture precedes a) ~~the~~ adding the ~~of a composition to a first cell culture~~ with unknown effects on glycated protein production to cells.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein a) adding the composition to a first cell culture ~~a component with unknown effects on glycated protein production~~ and b) adding the a glycated protein to the a first cell culture occur simultaneously.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the component is a chemical element, a molecule, a compound, a mixture, an emulsion, a chemotherapeutic agent, a pharmacological agent, a hormone, an antibody, a growth factor, a cellular factor, a nucleic acid, a protein, a peptide, a peptidomimetic, a nucleotide, a carbohydrate, ~~and~~ or combinations, fragments, analogs or derivatives of such components ~~entities~~.

14. The method of Claim 10, wherein the glycated protein is G-HSA or AGE.

16-26. (Cancelled)

27. (currently amended) A method for detecting a composition ~~compositions~~ that affects ~~affect~~ inflammation, the method comprising;

a) adding the composition to a first cell culture ~~a composition~~, wherein the composition comprises ~~comprising~~ a component with an unknown effect on the inflammation;

b) adding a glycated protein ~~stimulatory agent~~ for inducing production of a determinant ~~determinate~~ of inflammation to the first cell culture and a second cell culture;

c) measuring an amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of produced determinant of inflammation ~~selected from NF- $\kappa$ B, IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-11, m-CSF, fibrinogen, TNF- $\alpha$ , adhesion molecules, selectins, CRP, V-CAM-1, MCP-1 or PAI-1~~, the first and second cell cultures respectively being ~~vascular and/or aortic~~ endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture to determine whether the ~~compound~~ composition has a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, ~~a stabilizing effect~~, or no effect on the inflammation.

28. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27, wherein the component is a chemical element, a molecule, a compound, a mixture, an emulsion, a chemotherapeutic agent, a pharmacological agent, a hormone, an antibody, a growth factor, a cellular factor, a nucleic acid, a protein, a peptide, a peptidomimetic, a nucleotide, a carbohydrate, ~~and~~ or combinations, fragments, analogs or derivatives of such components entities.

29. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27, wherein the inflammation induces is vascular complications of diabetes, ventricular hypertrophy, atherosclerosis, angiopathy, myocarditis, nephritis, arthritis, glomerulonephritis, microangiopathies, renal insufficiency ~~and~~ or Alzheimer's disease.

30. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27, wherein the ~~stimulatory agent~~ determinant of inflammation is selected from NF- $\kappa$ B, a cytokine, fibrinogen, an adhesion molecule, CRP or PAI-1 ~~a glyated protein~~.

31. (Currently amended) The glyated protein of Claim 27 ~~30~~, wherein the glyated protein is G-HSA, or AGE.

32. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27, wherein after adding the stimulatory agent, the cells are cultured for a predetermined ~~predetermined~~ amount of time.

33. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27 30, wherein the cytokine is IL-1, IL-6, IL-11, m-CSF, TNF- $\alpha$ , or MCP-1 ~~b) adding a stimulating agent to the first cell culture precedes~~  
~~a) the adding of a composition with unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture.~~

34. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27 30, wherein the adhesion molecule is V-CAM-1 or a selectin ~~a) adding a composition comprising a compound with an unknown effect on inflammation to the first cell culture and b) adding a stimulating agent to the first cell culture occur simultaneously.~~

35. (New) A method for detecting a composition comprising an activity for inhibiting inflammation, the method comprising:

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a component with an unknown effect on inflammation;

b) adding a glycated protein for inducing production of a determinant of inflammation to the first cell culture and to a second cell culture;

c) measuring an amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of produced determinant of inflammation, the first and second cell cultures respectively comprising endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture to determine whether the composition comprises the activity for inhibiting the inflammation.

36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the determinant of inflammation is selected from NF- $\kappa$ B, a cytokine, fibrinogen, an adhesion molecule, CRP or PAI-1.

37. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the glycated protein is G-HSA or AGE.

38. (New) A method for detecting a composition that affects an inflammation, the method comprising:

a) adding to a first cell culture a composition comprising a component with an unknown effect on inflammation;

b) adding a stimulatory agent for inducing production of a determinant of inflammation to the first cell culture and a second cell culture, wherein the adding of the stimulatory agent to the first cell culture precedes or occurs simultaneously with the adding of the composition to the first cell culture;

c) measuring an amount respectively from the first cell culture and the second cell culture of produced determinant of inflammation, the first and second cell cultures respectively being endothelial cells; and

d) comparing the amount of the determinant from the first cell culture to the amount of determinant from the second cell culture to determine whether the compound has a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, a stabilizing effect, or no effect on inflammation.

39. (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the determinant of inflammation is selected from NF- $\kappa$ B, a cytokine, fibrinogen, an adhesion molecule, CRP or PAI-1.